

City of Somerville, Health Department
Report to Joint Public Health Board, Board of Health and Mayor's Office
for March 2006

To Be Submitted April 11, 2006 to JPHB

Board of Health

- Board members received information and discussed changes to the Regulations Affecting Access to Tobacco Products by Minors.
- Board members received updates on need to receive training in Incident Management System Command, and updates on Mutual Aid. The NIMS 700 and ICS 100 training will be offered at Somerville Hospital in early 2006. Board members have until September 2006 to receive the training
- Board members discussed Directors Updates including Operation Poseidon, Presentation to the Aldermen on Pandemic Flu Planning and Rodent Control Issues.

Director's Updates

Emergency Preparedness

- Director, Public Health Nurse and School Nurse Leader participate in DPH sponsored Pandemic Flu Planning meeting at Wellesley Gateway
- Director participates in city sponsored American Red Cross Shelter and Disaster trainings
- Director, Public Health Nurse present to Aldermen on Planning for Pandemic Flu
- Director and Public Health Nurse develop, review and post Emergency Preparedness Assistant Coordinator position

Body Art

- Director meets with Assistant City Solicitor and law student to review tasks for Apprenticeship Process

Fiscal/ Budget

- Director and Administrative Assistant meet to review revenue picture for FY 06

Active Living/ Shape Up Somerville

- Director convenes meeting with ICH to discuss Active Living by Design research grant
- Director interviews with Special Opportunities Fundraiser
- Director meets with Health Agenda and Bike Pedestrian Coordinator to plan Active Living Site Visit.
- Director meets with Healthy Eating by Design evaluator from Wake Forest University

Other

- Director attends school district's principals meeting with Trauma Network Manager
- Director participates in planning meetings for Shannon Anti-Gang grant
- Director convenes Opiate and Suicide Surveillance subcommittee. Police Crime Analyst joins the meeting
- Director convenes Nursing Issues planning group involving School Nurse Leader and Public Health Nurse

- Director working with IT to get Laptop computers fully operational with network and email capacity
 - Director participates in ongoing evaluation planning work of Somerville Cares About Prevention including CMCA Logic Model discussion
 - Director presents Health Department overview at Institute for Community Health meeting
 - Director and School Nurse Leader convene meeting with Brown School parents to discuss Head Lice policy
- Director meets with School District leadership to assist with planning for various school climate enhancement initiatives
- Director meets with Women's Commission Director and Administrative Assistant to discuss ongoing challenges with website
- Director attends SAMHSA's Underage Drinking Forum at Somerville High School

Personnel

- Director reviews and approves job description postings for the following positions; SCAP Director, Emergency Preparedness Assistant Coordinator, Shape Up Somerville Coordinator

Health Inspectors

Sanitary Inspections

- Responded to 31 complaints, 27 resolved
- Conducted 59 inspections of retail/food establishments, 28 reinspections
- Ten new business inspections
- Nineteen new visit progress checks

Housing Inspections

- Responded to 81 complaints, 67 resolved
- Conducted 3 full inspections
- Responded to five emergencies (2 high carbon monoxide levels, 3 unsanitary apartments)
- Met with Modern Pest Extermination for rodent control in the City of Somerville
- Collaborated with the Neighborhood Impact Team
- Issued trash & commercial tickets

Public Health Nursing

- Assisted with Indoor Air Quality Assessment at Lincoln Park/Thurston St.
- Attended Region 4B and UASI meetings
- Attended Pandemic Flu Training
- Attended Region 4A & 4B Hospital Pandemic Planning Presentation
- Attended regional TB Update Conference
- Attended Immigrant Service Providers Group Meeting
- Assisted in presenting Flu Pandemic planning information to Board of Aldermen
- Investigated 8 communicable disease cases

School Nursing

- School Nurses continue to gather health information updates to maintain student compliance with health mandates
- School Nurses gave first aid to 794 students in February
- School Nurses performed illness assessments on 1923 students in February
- School Nurses performed 669 nursing procedures in February (tube feedings, ostomy care, glucose testing, peak/flow monitoring etc.)
- School Nurses gave out medications to students 1396 times in February
- School Nurses attended CPR recertification class
- Psychosocial Counseling was documented 268 times in nurse's offices in February
- School nurses continue gathering data for asthma tracking project for school physician
- SNL continues to provide clinical support to nurses
- SNL provided direct care in schools when subs unavailable
- SNL continuing quality assurance project on vision follow up documentation
- SNL continues to attend PEP grant planning meetings
- SNL meeting with parents to discuss lice policy
- SNL continues to seek substitute nurses to fill roster
- SNL in Bi Monthly meeting with school physician
- SNL working with school physician to assess asthma data
- SNL presented program overview and analysis to Somers tat team
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Somerville Commission for Women

- *Somerville Domestic Violence Taskforce:* the group is continuing to thrive. DVTF intern is organizing a retreat to develop an action plan and community education campaign.
- *Walking:* the Safe-START Taskforce meets twice a month and Sonja Darai continues to attend. Pedestrian/bike counts in target intersections and to assess high-risk intersections analysis are finishing up. The Taskforce coordinator is preparing the report for the Mayor and Alderman. Next steps will be developed in upcoming meetings.
- *TADA:* The teens have developed and practiced their peer trainings for classrooms and will begin teaching this and next week. The group is finishing up for the school year and will have its final meeting at the end of April.
- *Commissioners:* There continue to be interested individuals to come to meetings and request information. The next meeting will develop a mission; goal, objectives and action plan report.
- *Promotion:* Sonja Darai appeared as a guest on a SCAT TV program. The March Reception event was aired for the month on Ch. 16. The Women's Commission has developed its television program and will begin taping in May.

Somerville Cares About Prevention

- Performed outreach at Somerville Little League for Coaches Conversations. 3/1/06
- Attended COMET (Coalition Online Management and Evaluation Training) in Tyngsboro, MA. 3/7/06
- Presented at Cambridge Healthy Child Task Force 3/8/06
- Attended Interview for new High School Headmaster on 3/8/06
- Sponsored Opiate Evaluation Meetings to review tracking instruments for the Coalition 3/9/06 and 3/22/06
- Attended Mass Forum training on Benchmarks and Indicators 3/15/06
- Presented at Somerville Kiwanis on Teach-Ins and National Alcohol Screening Day 3/16/06
- Attended Youth Workers' Network Meeting 3/21/06
- Met with Mass Forum leader and Somerville team. 3/21/06
- Attended NIMS training 3/22/06
- Attended anti gang grant planning meetings on 3/20, 3/23, and 3/31/06
- Outreach for Addictions Forum at Guns vs. Hoses, benefit Hockey game - Police vs. Fire Dept on 3/26/06
- Planning meeting for Coaches Conversations 3/23/06
- Attended statewide kick off event on Under-aged drinking at Seaport Hotel. 3/28/06
- SCAP's 3rd annual addiction forum: Start talking before they start drinking. 3/29/06. Attendance between 85-100 people.

Tobacco Control

Administrative

- Conducted first round of interviews of candidates for Enforcement Officer Position since re-opening of hiring process from 02/28/06 to 03/14/06.

311 System

- System is still under review for possible changes to tobacco complaint questions before its implementation.

Youth Access

- Retailer Training:
 - Chelsea/Revere (4 attendees)
- Tobacco retailer compliance checks in:
 - Somerville (Checked: 107, Sales: 1, Tickets: 1, Total: \$300, Suspension hearing scheduled). Rate of sale FY05: 1.7%
- Tobacco retailer educational inspections in:
 - Cambridge (Visited: 66, Signage Violations: 25, Permit Violations: 4, warnings: 29)
- Policy Development:

- Somerville: Introduced proposed amendments to Youth Access Regulation
- Chelsea: Introduced proposed amendments to Youth Access Regulation

ETS

- Inspections:
 - Cambridge (Inspected: 116, violations: 0)
 - Somerville (Inspected: 19, Complaint: 1, Signage violation: 1, Warning: 1)
 - Revere (Inspected: 22, Violations: 0)

Trauma Response Network

- Chaired 2 TRN Leadership Mtgs 3/6, 3/20
- Presented re: TRN at Meetings of the Somerville School District Principals 3/1
- Distributed collateral paperwork for Suicide Survivor's Support Group
- Performed recruitment for preliminary focus group for Suicide Survivor's Support Group and attending correspondence
- Attended 3 meeting with colleagues re: Suicide Survivor's Support Group – 3/1, 3/15, 3/29
- Attended monthly meeting of MA Coalition for Suicide Prevention 3/13
- Attended all day training in Psychological First Aid 3/16
- Attended Youth Worker/Coaches Conversations meetings to continue work on funded grant – 3/9, 3/13 as well as continued independent work related to this training
- Met with colleagues at time first Coaches' conversation was to be held – 3/23
- Attended 3 meetings at CTRF to coordinate 3/7, 3/14, 3/28
- Met with District Administrator of Student Services and Director of Guidance to discuss trauma protocols 3/8, 3/15
- Worked on documentation to present with above
- Attended SHS Student Support Services meeting 3/24
- Led mini-workshop in Self-Care with Youth Workers Network 3/21
- Attended trivia night with colleagues from Health Department
- Performed recon on two suicides, one drug OD – 3/15-22
- Communicated with Somerville Journal Editor and consultant to discuss media coverage of suicide
- Attended meeting with Superintendent of Schools, Board of Health Director, Public Schools Grants Writer, District Administrator of Student Support Services to discuss grants/mental health/health and collaboration within the schools – 3/24
- Attended SCAP Annual Addictions Forum – 3/29
- Networked with TRN members

